#### County of Mercer McDade Administration Building, 6 40 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 8068, Trenton, NJ 08650-0068

#### **REQUESTS FOR PROPOSAL**

## RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR THE MERCER COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION

To Be Received On December 5, 2013 at 11:00 A.M.



#### **REQUESTS FOR PROPOSAL**

# RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR THE MERCER COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION RFP2013-04 RISK MANAGER

#### **Exempt Services**

The County of Mercer is soliciting proposals through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. The County of Mercer Purchasing Agent is soliciting proposals for Risk Manager for the Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission:

Mercer County requires submission by December 5, 2013 at 11:00 A.M. in the Office of Purchasing, Room 321, 640 S. Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08650. Late submissions will not be accepted. Submit Proposals to:

Marcella Covello, Purchasing Agent 640 S. Broad Street Room 321 Trenton, NJ 08650-0068

With the exception of the United States Postal Service, express mail shall be delivered to the Department of Purchasing, 640 S. Broad Street, Room 321, Trenton, New Jersey 08611.

It is the responsibility of prospective respondent's to check this website for any addenda issued prior to the proposal opening. Failure to do so could result in the rejection of your submission.

Specifications and instructions may be obtained in the Department of Purchasing or on the County Website at <a href="http://nj.gov/counties/mercer/procurement/bidsopp.html">http://nj.gov/counties/mercer/procurement/bidsopp.html</a>.

Respondents shall comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975 C127. (N.J.S.A. 17:27et seq.)

Marcella Covello, QPA Purchasing Agent County of Mercer RFP2013-04 RISK MANAGER

#### 1. Introduction

The County of Mercer is requesting proposals from qualified individuals and firms to provide a Risk Management Consultant for the Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission.

#### PERIOD OF CONTRACT

The contract shall be awarded for a one year period with the option to extend two, one-year periods.

#### CONTRACT AWARD

The awarding of any contract for specified services is contingent upon the County of Mercer establishing by Ordinance the Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission.

#### **COUNTY OF MERCER**

Mercer County is a legal, governmental entity with a County Executive form of government, in which the County Executive performs executive functions and a Board of Chosen Freeholders acts in a legislative capacityThe County's population is approximately 368,303 and it consists of approximately 226 square miles of area. The County of Mercer employs approximately 1,700 individuals in over 50 departments. It owns administration and courthouse buildings. It owns correctional services facilities consisting of detention facilities for men and women. Its operating budget is approximately three-hundred million dollars. It provides significant and diverse services to its residents, including those in the senior, disabled, veterans, and other communities.

#### CONTRACT AWARD

The awarding of any contract for specified services is contingent upon the County of Mercer establishing by Ordinance the Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission.

#### 2. Administrative Conditions and Requirements

The following items express the administrative conditions and requirements of this RFP. Together with the other RFP sections, they will apply to the RFP process, the subsequent contract, and project production. Any proposed change, modification, or exception to these conditions and requirements may be the basis for the County of Mercer, hereinafter referred to as owners, to determine the proposal as non-responsive to the RFP and will be a factor in the determination of an award of a contract. The contents of the proposal of the successful Respondent, as accepted by the owner, will become part of any contract awarded as a result of this RFP.

2.1 Schedule: Release November 25, 2013 and open Proposals on December 5, 2013 at 11:00 A.M. in Room 321 of the McDade Administration Building. Address stated in Section 2.2 below.

2.2 Proposal Submission Information
One (1) Original & FIVE (5) copies to:
Marcella Covello, Purchasing Agent
640 S. Broad Street
PO Box 8068

#### Room 321 Trenton, NJ 08650-0068

It is the respondents responsibility that proposals are presented to the County at the time and at the place designated. Proposals may be hand delivered or mailed; however, the County disclaims any responsibility for regular or overnight mail. If the proposal is sent by express mail service, the designation must also appear on the outside of the express mail envelope. Proposals received after the designated time and date shall be returned unopened.

Clearly mark the submittal package with the title of this RFP and the name of the responding firm. The original proposal shall be marked to distinguish it from the copies.

#### 2.5 Interpretations and Addenda

Respondents are expected to examine the RFP with care and observe all its requirements. All questions about the meaning or intent of this RFP, all interpretations and clarifications considered necessary by the owner's representative in response to such comments and questions will be issued by formal written Addenda will be binding. Oral interpretations, statements or clarifications are without legal effect.

#### 2.6 Quantities of Estimate

Wherever the estimated quantities of work to be done are shown in any section of this RFP, including the Proposal Cost Form, they are given for use in comparing proposals. The owner especially reserves the right (except as herein otherwise specifically limited) to increase or diminish the quantities as may be deemed reasonably necessary or desirable by the owner to complete the work detailed by the contract. Such increase or diminution shall in no way violate this contract, nor shall any such increase or diminution give cause for claims or liability for damages.

#### 2.7 Cost Liability and Additional Costs

The owner assumes no responsibility and liability for costs incurred by the Respondents prior to the issuance of an agreement. The liability of the owner shall be limited to the terms and conditions of the contract. Respondents will assume responsibility for all costs not stated in their proposals. All unit rates either stated in the proposal or used as a basis for its pricing are required to be all-inclusive. Additional charges, unless incurred for additional work performed by request of the owner, are not to be billed and will not be paid.

#### 2.8 Statutory and Other Requirements

#### 2.8.1 Compliance with Laws

Any contract entered into between the contractor and the owner must be in accordance with and subject to compliance by both parties with the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law. The contractor must agree to comply with the non-discrimination provisions and all other laws and regulations applicable to the performance of services there under. The respondent shall sign and acknowledge such forms and certificates as may be required by this section.

#### 2.8.2 Mandatory Affirmative Action Compliance

No firm may be issued a contract unless it complies with the Affirmative Action requirements of P. L. 1975, C. 127 as identified in the documents attached hereto. The form shall be properly executed.

#### 2.8.3 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

Discrimination on the basis of disability in contracting for the delivery of services is prohibited. Respondents are required to read American with Disabilities language that is part of the documents attached hereto and agree that the provisions of Title II of the Act are made part of the contract. The contractor is obligated to comply with the Act and hold the owner harmless.

#### 2.8.4 Stockholder Disclosure

No corporation or partnership shall be awarded any contract for the performance of any work or the furnishing of any goods, unless, with receipt of the proposal of said corporation or partnership, there is submitted a statement setting forth the names and addresses of all stockholders in the corporation or partnership who own

ten (10) percent or greater interest therein. The Respondent shall complete and submit the form of statement that is included in this RFP.

#### 2.8.5 Non-Collusion Affidavit

The Non-Collusion Affidavit, which is part of this RFP, shall be properly executed and submitted with the RFP response.

#### 2.8.6 Business Registration P.L. 2009, c.315

Reforms Business Registration Certificate Filing; permits filing prior to award of contracts if not filed with bid. Effective with bids received and contracts awarded after January 18, 2010, this law removes the requirement of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-23.2) that required a bid to be rejected if the bidder failed to include a BRC with the bid, even though it may have been the otherwise lowest responsible bid. The law now allows the BRC to be filed anytime prior to award of the contract and the bidder had to have obtained the BRC prior to receipt of bids. This permits the BRC to be required with a bid, or submitted subsequently. If a BRC is required in a bid, but not submitted with the bid, it would an immaterial defect; curable by being filed prior to award of the contract. A BRC is obtained from the New Jersey Division of Revenue. Information on obtaining a BRC is available on the internet at <a href="https://www.ni.gov/nibas">www.ni.gov/nibas</a> or by phone at (609) 292-1730.

#### 2.8.7 Insurance and Indemnification

If it becomes necessary for the contractor, either as principal or by agent or employee, to enter upon the premises or property of the owner in order to construct, erect, inspect, make delivery or remove property hereunder, the contractor hereby covenants and agrees to take use, provide and make all proper, necessary and sufficient precautions, safeguards, and protection against the occurrence of happenings of any accident, injuries, damages, or hurt to person or property during the course of the work herein covered and his/her sole responsibility.

The contractor further covenants and agrees to indemnify and save harmless the owner from the payment of all sums of money or any other consideration(s) by reason of any, or all, such accidents, injuries, damages, or hurt that may happen or occur upon or about such work and all fines, penalties and loss incurred for or by reason of the violation of any owner regulation, ordinance or the laws of the State, or the United States while said work is in progress.

The contractor shall maintain sufficient insurance to protect against all claims under Workers Compensation, General Liability and Automobile and shall be subject to approval for adequacy of protection and certificates of such insurance shall be provided.

#### 2.8.8 Pay to Play

Starting in January, 2007, business entities are advised of their responsibility to file an annual disclosure statement of political contributions with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.27 if they receive contracts in excess of \$50,000 from public entities in a calendar year. Business entities are responsible for determining if filing is necessary. Additional information on this requirement is available from ELEC at 888-313-3532 or at <a href="https://www.elec.state.ni.us">www.elec.state.ni.us</a>.

#### 2.9 Deleted

#### 2.10 Deleted

#### 2.11 Failure to Enter Contract

Should the respondent, to whom the contract is awarded, fail to enter into a contract within ten (10) days, Sundays and holidays excepted, the owner may then, at its option, accept the proposal of another respondent.

#### 2.12 Commencement of Work

The contractor agrees to commence work after the date of award by the owner and upon notice from the using department.

#### 2.13 Termination of Contract

If, through any cause, the contractor shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner obligations under the Contract or if the contractor violates any requirements of the Contract, the owner shall thereupon have the RFP2013-04 RISK MANAGER

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right to terminate the Contract by giving written notice to the contractor of such termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the proposed effective date of the termination. Such termination shall relieve the owner of any obligation for the balances to the contractor of any sum or sums set forth in the Contract. The contractor agrees to indemnify and hold the owner harmless from any liability to subcontractors/suppliers concerning payment for work performed or goods supplied arising out of the lawful termination of the Contract by the owner under this provision. In case of default by the contractor, the owner may procure the articles or services from other sources and hold the contractor responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby.

#### 2.14 Challenge of Specifications

Any respondent who wishes to challenge a specification shall file such challenge in writing.

#### 2.15 Payment

Invoices shall specify, in detail, the period for which payment is claimed, the services performed during the prescribed period, the amount claimed and correlation between the services claimed and the Proposal Cost Form.

#### 2.16. Ownership of Material

The owner shall retain all of its rights and interest in any and all documents and property both hard copy and digital furnished by the owner to the contractor for the purpose of assisting the contractor in the performance of this contract. All such items shall be returned immediately to the owner at the expiration or termination of the contract or completion of any related services, pursuant thereto, whichever comes first. None of the documents and/or property shall, without the written consent of the owner, be disclosed to others or used by the contractor or permitted by the contractor to be used by their parties at any time except in the performance of the resulting contract. Ownership of all data, materials and documentation originated and prepared for the owner pursuant to this contract shall belong exclusively to the owner. All data, reports, computerized information, programs and materials related to this project shall be delivered to and become the property of the owner upon completion of the project. The contractor shall not have the right to use, sell, or disclose the total of the interim or final work products, or make available to third parties, without the prior written consent of the owner.

#### 2.17 RECORDS FOR THE NEW JERSEY STATE COMPTROLLER

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:15C-14(d), relevant records of private vendors or other persons entering into contracts with the County are subject to audit or review by the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller. Therefore, the Contractor shall maintain all documentation related to products, transactions or services under this contract for a period of five years from the date of final payment. Such records shall be made available to the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller upon request.

#### PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

3.0 Deleted.

#### 4.1 Qualification Statement

The statement shall set forth brief details of the firm's principal activities, the number of personnel in the firm and the firm's location. Please provide a list of (3) three clients for whom similar services have been provided. Include the following in your response:

- Name of government agency.
- Contact name, position, and current telephone number.
- Dates, cost and scope of service
- Status and comments

#### 4.2 Key Personnel Information

The respondent shall provide the identity and the credentials of the principals and other key personnel working for the contractor and their areas of responsibilities.

#### 4.3 Proposal Forms (stated on Checklist)

The following forms are contained in the attachments. All forms are required and shall be completed and made part of the proposal submitted.

- 1. Proposal Checklist
- 2. Proposal Cost Form

- 3. Non-Collusion Affidavit
- 4. Stockholder Disclosure
- 5. Affirmative Action Statement
- 6. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Addenda

#### 4.4 Location of Servicing Office

The proposal must list the location and address of the present, active office that will service and manage this contract.

#### 5. Evaluation, Review and Selection Process

#### 5.1 Proposals to Remain Subject to Acceptance

RFP responses shall remain open for a period of sixty (60) calendar days from the submittal date. The owner may either award the Contract within the applicable time period or reject all proposals. The owner may extend the decision to award or reject all proposals beyond the sixty (60) calendar days when the proposals of any respondents who consent thereto may, at the request of the owner, be held for consideration for such longer period as may be agreed.

#### 5.2 Rejection of Proposals

The owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or to reject any proposals if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of such respondent fails to satisfy the owner that such respondent is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the RFP and to complete the work contemplated therein. The owner reserves the right to waive any minor informality in the RFP.

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#### 5.3 Evaluation Process

An evaluation team will review all proposals to determine if they satisfy the Proposal Requirements, determine if a proposal should be rejected and evaluate the proposals based upon the Evaluation Criteria. Multiple contracts may be awarded.

#### 5.4 Evaluation Criteria

The criteria considered in the evaluation of each proposal follows. The arrangement of the criteria is not meant to imply order of importance in the selection process. All criteria will be used to select the successful respondent.

#### 5.4.1 Understanding of the Requested Work

The proposals will be evaluated for general compliance with instructions and requests issued in the RFP. Non-compliance with significant instructions shall be grounds for disqualification of proposals.

#### 5.4.2 Knowledge and Technical Competence

This includes the ability of the respondent to perform all of the tasks and fulfill adequately the stated requirements.

#### 5.4.3. Management, Experience and Personnel Qualifications

Expertise of the firm shall be demonstrated by past contract successes providing government agencies with similar services. The respondent will be evaluated on knowledge, experience, prior collaboration and successful completion of projects/services similar to that requested in this RFP. In additional to relevant experience, respondents shall provide personnel qualifications in the Proposal.

#### 5.4.4 Ability to Complete the Services in a Timely Manner

This is based on the estimated duration of the tasks and the respondent's ability to accomplish these tasks as stated.

#### 5.4.5 Cost Evaluation

Lowest cost proposal divided by next low cost, multiplied by points

Example: cost assigned 30 points, lowest cost proposal \$100,000 next low \$120,000

(Divide the low cost by the next low) multiplied by 30 = (100,000/120,000) \* 30 = 25

Low cost respondents earns 30 points, next low earns 25 points, etc.

#### Additional Information

Price shall be based on the requirements set forth. Any services not included as part of any resulting contract scope of services must be approved and authorized by the owner before such work is initiated. The owner shall pay for such approved services, at the rate or cost agreed upon between the owner and contractor, provided the respondent has provided a schedule of fees for additional services with this RFP.

#### 5.5 Paymen

Payment will be made on presentation of owner's voucher duly signed and executed. Term of the contract: One Year

#### 5.5 Notice of Award

The successful respondent will be notified of the award of contract upon a favorable decision by the governing body. The Purchasing Agent may then send a Purchase Order/Voucher to the contractor.

#### **Proposal Checklist**

The following checklist is provided as assistance to the development of the RFP Response. It in no way supersedes or replaces the requirements of the RFP. Please initial on the lines below for each document/section attesting to the fact that you have read and/or included the documents with your RFP.

Business Registration Certificate to be supplied PRIOR TO CONTRACT AWARD	
Acknowledgement of Receipt of Addenda	
Stockholder Disclosure (MANDATORY REJECTION IF NOT INCLUDED)	
Affirmative Action Statement	
Affirmative Action Mandatory Language	
Americans with Disabilities Act Mandatory Language	
Non-Collusion Affidavit	
Certification and Disclosure of Political Contributions	
Qualification Statement	
References	
Proposal Cost Form	
Schedule of Hourly Rates	

#### COUNTY OF MERCER

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF ADDENDA

The undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of the following Addenda:

Addendum Number	<u>Dated</u>	<u>Acknowledge Receipt</u>
		(initial)
No addenda were received:		
Acknowledged for:		
(Nam	e of Bidder)	
Ву:		
(Signature of Authorized R	Representative)	
Name:		
(Print or Type	e)	
litle:		
Date:		

#### Contract Language for BRC Compliance

Goods and Services Contracts (including purchase orders)

\* Construction Contracts (including public works related purchase orders)

N.J.S.A. 52:32-44 imposes the following requirements on contractors and all subcontractors that **knowingly** provide goods or perform services for a contractor fulfilling this contract:

- the contractor shall provide written notice to its subcontractors and suppliers to submit proof of business registration to the contractor;
- 2) subcontractors through all tiers of a project must provide written notice to their subcontractors and suppliers to submit proof of business registration and subcontractors shall collect such proofs of business registration and maintain them on file;
- 3) prior to receipt of final payment from a contracting agency, a contractor must submit to the contacting agency an accurate list of all subcontractors and suppliers\* or attest that none was used; and,
- during the term of this contract, the contractor and its affiliates shall collect and remit, and shall notify all subcontractors and their affiliates that they must collect and remit to the Director, New Jersey Division of Taxation, the use tax due pursuant to the Sales and Use Tax Act, (N.J.S.A. 54:32B-1 et seq.) on all sales of tangible personal property delivered into this State.

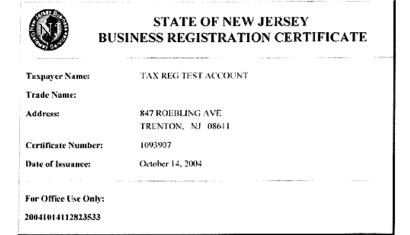
A contractor, subcontractor or supplier who fails to provide proof of business registration or provides false business registration information shall be liable to a penalty of \$25 for each day of violation, not to exceed \$50,000 for each business registration not properly provided or maintained under a contract with a contracting agency. Information on the law and its requirements is available by calling (609) 292-9292.

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#### SAMPLE OF THE NEW JERSEY BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE





#### EEO/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMPLIANCE NOTICE N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 and N.J.A.C. 17:27 GOODS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND GENERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

All successful bidders are required to submit evidence of appropriate affirmative action compliance to the County and Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance. During a review, Division representatives will review the County files to determine whether the affirmative action evidence has been submitted by the vendor/contractor. Specifically, each vendor/contractor shall submit to the County, prior to execution of the contract, one of the following documents:

### 1. Letter of Federal Approval indicating that the vendor is under an existing Federally approved or sanctioned affirmative action program. A copy of the approval letter is to be provided by the vendor to the County and the Division. This approval letter is valid for one year from the date of issuance. Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please submit a photostatic copy of such approval.

Do you have a federally-approved or sanctioned EEO/AA program?

Goods and General Service Vendors

2. A Certificate of Employee Information Report (hereafter "Certificate"), issued in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-1.1 et seg. The vendor must provide a copy of the Certificate to the County as evidence of its compliance with the regulations. The Certificate represents the review and approval of the vendor's Employee Information Report, Form AA-302 by the Division. The period of validity of the Certificate is indicated on its face. Certificates must be renewed prior to their expiration date in order to remain valid.

#### If yes, please submit a photostatic copy of such approval.

3. The successful vendor shall complete an Initial Employee Report, Form AA-302 and submit it to the Division with \$150.00 Fee and forward a copy of the Form to the County. Upon submission and review by the Division, this report shall constitute evidence of compliance with the regulations. Prior to execution of the contract, the EEO/AA evidence must be submitted.

The successful vendor may obtain the Affirmative Action Employee Information Report (AA302) on the Division website www.state.nj.us/treasury/contract\_compliance.

The successful vendor(s) must submit the AA302 Report to the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance, with a copy to Public Agency.

The undersigned vendor certifies that he/she is aware of the commitment to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 and N.J.A.C. 17:27 and agrees to furnish the required forms of evidence.

The undersigned vendor further understands that his/her bid shall be rejected as non-responsive if said contractor fails to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

COMPANY:	SIGNATURE:
PRINT NAME:	_TITLE:
DATE:	

#### (REVISED 4/10) EXHIBIT A

#### MANDATORY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LANGUAGE N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. (P.L. 1975, C. 127) N.J.A.C. 17:27

#### GOODS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND GENERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, the contractor will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.

The contractor or subcontractor will send to each labor union, with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union of the contractor's commitments under this chapter and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to make good faith efforts to meet targeted county employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, and labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personnel testing conforms with the principles of job-related testing, as established by RFP2013-04 RISK MANAGER

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the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

In conforming with the targeted employment goals, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The contractor shall submit to the public agency, after notification of award but prior to execution of a goods and services contract, one of the following three documents:

Letter of Federal Affirmative Action Plan Approval

Certificate of Employee Information Report

Employee Information Report Form AA302, electronically provided by the Division and distributed to the public agency through the Division's website at: <a href="www.state.nj.us/treasury/contract\_compliance">www.state.nj.us/treasury/contract\_compliance</a>

The contractor and its subcontractors shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance as may be requested by the office from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to <u>Subchapter 10 of the Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 17:27</u>.

#### STOCKHOLDER DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATION

No corporation or partnership shall be awarded any contract for the performance of any work or the furnishing of any materials or supplies, unless, prior to the receipt of the bid or accompanying the bid of said corporation or partnership, there is submitted a statement setting forth the names and addresses of all stockholders in the corporation or partnership who own ten (10) percent or more of its stock of any class, or of all individual partners in the partnership who own a ten (10) percent or greater interest therein. Form of Statement shall be completed.

The Attorney General has concluded that the provisions of N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2, in referring to corporations and partnerships, are intended to apply to all forms of corporations and partnerships, including, but not limited to, limited partnerships, limited liability corporations, limited liability partnerships, and Subchapter S corporations.

## STOCKHOLDER DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATION This Statement Shall Be Included with Bid Submission

	I certify that the list below contains the names and home addresses of all stockholders holding 10% or more of the issued and outstanding stock of the undersigned.			
			OR	
	I certify that no one stockholder owns 10% or more of the issued and outstanding stock of the undersigned.			
Check	the box that represents th	e type of busii	ness organization:	
		□Corporation □Limited Liab □Non-Profit (	ility Corporation	□Sole Proprietorship □Limited Liability Partnership
	rm shall be completed and for automatic rejection of	-	e of the bidder to submit the	ne required information is
	nolders:			
Name	:		Name:	
Home	Address:		Home Address:	
Name	:		Name:	
Home	Address:		Home Address:	
Name	:		Name:	
Home	Address:		Home Address:	
LEGAL	NAME OF BUSINESS			
Signat	ure	Dat	e	

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Printed Name & Title\_\_\_\_\_

### P.L. 2012 BID OR PROPOSAL PROHIBITED

C.52:32-57 "P.L. 2012, c.25 prohibits State and local public contracts with persons or entities engaging in certain investment activities in energy or finance sectors of Iran."	
I am the duly authorized agent making certification that there has been no engagement in certainvestment activities in energy or finance sectors of Iran as prohibited by P.L. 2012, c.25.	ain
NAME OF BIDDER	
SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
TITLE	
DATE	

#### AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 Equal Opportunity for Individuals with Disability

The CONTRACTOR and the County of Mercer do hereby agree that the provisions of Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (the "Act") (42 U.S.C. \$12101 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities in all services, programs and activities provided or made available by public entities, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant hereunto, are made a part of this contract. In providing any aid, benefit, or service on behalf of the County pursuant to this contract, the CONTRACTOR agrees that the performance shall be in strict compliance with the Act. In the event that the CONTRACTOR, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors violate or are alleged to have violated the Act during the performance of this contract, the CONTRACTOR shall defend the County in any action or administrative proceeding commenced pursuant to this Act. The CONTRACTOR shall indemnify, protect, and save harmless the County, its agents, servants, and employees from and against any and all suits, claims, losses demands, or damages, of whatever kind or nature arising out of or claimed to arise out of the alleged violation. The CONTRACTOR shall, at its own expense, appear, defend, and pay any and all charges for legal services and any and all costs and other expenses arising from such action or administrative proceeding or incurred in connection therewith. In any and all complaints brought pursuant to the County grievance procedure, the CONTRACTOR agrees to abide by any decision of the County which is rendered pursuant to said grievance procedure. If any action or administrative proceeding results in an award of damages against the County or if the County incurs any expense to cure a violation of the ADA which has been brought pursuant to its grievance procedure, the CONTRACTOR shall satisfy and discharge the same at its own expense.

The County shall, as soon, practicable after a claim has been made against it, give written notice thereof to the CONTRACTOR along with full and complete particulars of the claim. If any action or administrative proceedings is brought against the County or any of its agents, servants, and employees, the County shall expeditiously forward or have forwarded to the CONTRACTOR every demand, complaint, notice, summons, pleading, or other process received by the County or its representatives.

It is expressly agreed and understood that any approval by the County of the services provided by the CONTRACTOR pursuant to this contract will not relieve the CONTRACTOR of the obligation to comply with the Act and to defend, indemnify, protect, and save harmless the County pursuant to this paragraph.

It is further agreed and understood that the County assumes no obligation to indemnify or save harmless the CONTRACTOR, its agents, servants, employees and subcontractors for any claim which may arise out of their performance of this Agreement. Furthermore, the CONTRACTOR expressly understands and agrees that the provisions of this indemnification clause shall in no way limit the CONTRACTOR'S obligations assumed in this agreement, nor shall they be construed to relieve the CONTRACTOR from any liability, nor preclude the County from taking any other actions available to it under any other provisions of the Agreement or otherwise at law.

#### **EXCERPTS FROM THE EEOC SEXUAL HARASSMENT GUIDELINES**

#### PART 1604 -- GUIDELINES ON DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF SEX

#### 1604.11 Sexual Harassment

- (a) Harassment on the basis of sex is a violation of Sec. 703 of Title VII (of the Civil Rights Act of 1964). Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual, or or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.
- (b) In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes sexual harassment, The Commission (EEOC) will look at the record as a whole and at the totality of the circumstances, such as the nature of the sexual advances and the context in which the alleged incidents occurred. The determination of the legality of a particular action will be made from the facts, on a case by case basis.
- (c) Applying general Title VII principles, an employer, employment agency, joint apprenticeship committee or labor organization (hereinafter collectively referred to as "employer") is responsible for its acts and those of its agents and supervisory employees with respect to sexual harassment regardless of whether the specific acts complained of were authorized or even forbidden by the employer and whether the employer knew or should have known of their occurrence. The Commission will examine the circumstances of the particular employment relationship and the job functions performed by the individual in determining whether an individual in determining whether an individual acts in either a supervisory or agency capacity.
- (d) With respect to conduct between fellow employees, employer is responsible for acts of sexual harassment in the workplace where the employer (or its agents or supervisory employees) knows or should have known of the conduct, unless it can be show that it took immediate and appropriate corrective action.
- (e) An employer may also be responsible for the acts of non-employees, with respect to sexual harassment of employees in the workplace, where the employer (or its agents or supervisory employees) knows or should have known of the conduct and fails to take immediate and appropriate corrective action. In reviewing these cases the Commission will consider the extent of the employer's control and any other legal responsibility, which the employer may have with respect to the conduct of such non-employees.

#### INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

If it becomes necessary for the consultant, either as principal or by agent or employee, to enter upon the premises or property of the County, the consultant hereby covenants and agrees to take use, provide and make all proper, necessary and sufficient precautions, safeguards, and protection against the occurrence of happenings of any accidents, injuries, damages, or hurt to person or property during the course of the work herein covered and be his/her sole responsibility.

The consultant further covenants and agrees to indemnify and save harmless the County from the payment of all sums of money or any other consideration(s) by reason of any, or all, such accidents, injuries, damages, or hurt that may happen or occur upon or about such work and all fines, penalties and loss incurred for or by reason of the violation of any County regulation, ordinance or the laws of the State, or the United States while said work is in progress.

The consultant shall maintain sufficient insurance to protect against all claims under Workers Compensation as statutorily required, General Liability and Professional Liability in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 single occurrence and \$2,000,000.00 general aggregate and Automobile Insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 combined single limit. Vendors are responsible to provide updated certificates as policies renew. Depending upon the scope of work and goods or services provided, specific types of insurance may not be required. The Mercer County Division of Insurance and Property Management will make this determination.

In all cases where a Certificate of Insurance is required, the County of Mercer is to be named as an additional insured and named as the certificate holder as follows: "County of Mercer, 640 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08611". The Certificate shall contain a 30-day notice of cancellation.

#### WAIVER OF SUBROGATION CLAUSE

Consultant, as a material part of the consideration to be rendered to the County, hereby waives all claims against the County for damages to the goods, wares and merchandise in, upon or about said premises, and consultant will hold the County exempt and harmless from any damage and injury to any such person or to the goods, wares or merchandise of any such person, arising from the use of the premises by the consultant or from failure of the consultant to keep the premises in good condition and repair as herein provided.

Dated and Signed	

#### **INSURANCE CERTIFICATE**

#### PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING CHANGE

As you may be aware, there has been a recent change to the ACCORD insurance certificate which precludes placing the number of days for cancellation notification in the lower left hand box. You may fulfill the requirement for a 30-day notice of cancellation for a County of Mercer contract in any one of the following ways:

- indicate a 30-day notice of cancellation in the Description of Operations box at the bottom of the certificate
- 2. indicate a 30-day notice of cancellation on a separate page
- 3. provide a copy of the cancellation clause from the policy (you do not need to provide a copy of the entire policy, only the page(s) referencing the cancellation clause)

If you need further clarification on this or other insurance certificate issues, please contact the Insurance and Property Management Office at 609-989-6655.

### NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT STATE OF NEW JERSEY

COUNTY OF MERCER SS:	
l, of	the City of,
in the County of, a	nd the State of,
of full age, being duly sworn according t	o law on my oath depose and say that:
l am	
of the firm of	
with full authority so to do; that said bidd participate in any collusion, or otherwise connection with the above named Con in this affidavit are true and correct, and	eve named Contract, and that I executed the said proposal for has not, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement, a taken any action in restraint of free, competitive bidding in tract; and that all statements contained in said proposal and a made with full knowledge that the County of Mercer relied ned in said Proposal and in the statements contained in this a said proposal.
secure such Contract upon an agre	or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or ement or understanding for a commission, percentage, conafide employees or bonafide established commercial or
(Name of Vendor)	
Subscribed and sworn to before me	
Thisday of, 20	_
(Signature of Notary Public)	
Notary Public of	_
My Commission expires 20	

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#### PROPOSAL

The undersigned bidder declares that he/she has read the Notice to Bidders, Instructions to Bidders, Affidavits and Specifications attached, that he/she has determined the conditions affecting the bid agrees, if this proposal is accepted, to furnish and deliver the following:

## RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR THE MERCER COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION

FIRST YEAR A	NNUAL COST	\$
OPTION YEAR	RS	
SECOND YEA	AR ANNUAL COST	\$
THIRD YEAR A	ANNUAL COST	\$
	RESPONDENTS SHALL INCLUDE A SCHEDULE OF H	IOURLY RATES.
_	(SIGNATURE BY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTA	ATIVE)
	ned is a Corporation, Partnership or Individual under the having its principal office at	
COMPANY ADDRESS ADDRESS NAME TELEPHONE FAX E-MAIL DATE		

CONTRACT AWARD		
Upon opening bids, pricing shall remain firm for a period of sixty (60) calendar days. In the event that the award is not made within sixty (60) calendar days, bidders may hold their bid consideration beyond sixty days or until the contract is awarded.		
$\square$ Check here if willing to hold the pricing consideration beyond sixty days or until the contract is awarded.		
Check here if not willing to hold the pricing consideration beyond sixty days or until the contract is awarded.		
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE		

#### CONTINUITY OF OPERATON DURING EMERGENCIES

In the event of an emergency, Vendor will provide priority service for Mercer County.
CONTINUITY OF OPERATION DURING EMERGENCY
YES
NO
Contractors shall have contingency plans to ensure that Services continue during emergency period such as, but not limited to, major equipment breakdown, national or local strikes, severe weather conditions, power outages and traffic disruptions. Indicate your continuity of operation plan for ensuring services during emergencies.

## COUNTY OF MERCER Certification of Political Contributions

(Effective February 1, 2005)

PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS ENITTY:
NAME AND POSITION OF FILING OFFICER
DUNITED ADDRESS
BUSINESS ADDRESS:
CITY STATE AND ZIP CODE:
Refer to the attached link: http://nj.gov/counties/mercer/news/publications/pdf/2004_14_ordinance.pdf
Mercer County Ordinance No. 2004-14 This Ordinance, effective February 1, 2005, provides that all professional business entities seeking a professional services contract on a no-bid basis with the County of Mercer or any of its boards, independent authorities or commissions are required to provide a sworn statement or certification that the professional business entity has not made and will not make a political contribution in violation of said Ordinance.
<u>Certification</u> I, the undersigned, certify that:
(1) I have reviewed Mercer County Ordinance No. 2004-14 and understand the terms therein.
(2) The following individuals and/or entities have not solicited a political contribution or made a political contribution in violation of the provisions set forth in Mercer County Ordinance No. 2004-14 (No-Bid Professional Services Contracts) in excess of the limits set forth in said Ordinance: (i) the professional business entity identified above; (ii) all principals who own or control 10% or more of the equity of the corporation, partnership or professional business entity including principals, partners and officers in the aggregate; (iii) any subsidiaries directly controlled by the professional business entity; and (iv) if the professional business entity is a natural person, that person's spouse and/or child, living at the same address.
(3) I am duly authorized and empowered to make this certification on behalf of the professional business entity and those others referenced above.
(4) The foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment including, but not limited to, the penalty terms set forth in Mercer County Ordinance No. 2004-14.
NAME:
TITLE:
DATE:

#### COUNTY OF MERCER

#### **Disclosure of Political Contributions**

Professional Business Entity:		

Pursuant to Mercer County Ordinance No. 2004-14 all professional business entities with which the County of Mercer or any of its boards, independent authorities or commissions intends to award professional services contracts on a no-bid basis are required to disclose, among other things, all political contributions made within the twelve month period immediately preceding the date of the awarding of the contract or agreement to (1) a campaign committee or fund of any candidate for or holder of a public office within Mercer County government; (2) any municipal or county party committee; or (3) any political action committee (PAC) that is organized for the purpose of promoting or supporting Mercer County government candidates or officeholders. Indicate "none" if no such contributions have been made.

A separate Disclosure must be submitted by each of the following, defined as a "Professional Business Entity" under the Ordinance:

- (i) a professional business entity submitting a Disclosure on its own behalf;
- (ii) all principals who own or control 10 % or more of the equity of the corporation, partnership or professional business entity;
- (iii) any subsidiaries directly controlled by the professional business entity; or
- (iv) if a professional business entity is a natural person, that person's spouse and/or child, living at the same address.

Pertaining to Disclosure of Political Contributions to any political action committee (PAC) that is organized for the purpose of promoting/supporting Mercer County candidates/officeholders. Indicate "none" if no such contributions have been made.

Name of Political Action Committee	Date of Contribution	Amount of Contribution	Type of Contributi on i.e., Cash, Check, Loan, In Kind	Purpose of Political Action Committee

Pertaining to Disclosure of Political Contributions to: any candidate committee and/or election fund of any candidate for or current holder of a public office within Mercer County government; and any municipal or county political party committee. Indicate "none" if no such contributions have been made.

Name of Committee or Fund	Date of Contribution	Amount of Contribution	Type of Contribution i.e., Cash, Check, Loan, In Kind	

I have reviewed Mercer County Ordinance No. 2004-14 and understand its terms. I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing statements by me are true and that I am duly authorized to make this certification. I am aware that if any of the statements are wilfully false, I am subject to punishment.

mpany or Professional Business Entity:	
me:	
::	
e:	
ationship to Professional Business Entity: (See ii, iii and iv above)	
If ii applies, list principals and % of ownership or control:	
If iii applies, name and address of subsidiary:	
If iv applies, name of spouse and/or child:	

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR

### RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR THE MERCER COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION

#### PURPOSE OF REQUEST

The County of Mercer is requesting proposals from qualified individuals and firms to provide a Risk Management Consultant for the Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission.

#### **COUNTY OF MERCER**

Mercer County is a legal, governmental entity with a County Executive form of government, in which the County Executive performs executive functions and a Board of Chosen Freeholders acts in a legislative capacityThe County's population is approximately 368,303 and it consists of approximately 226 square miles of area. The County of Mercer employs approximately 1,700 individuals in over 50 departments. It owns administration and courthouse buildings. It owns correctional services facilities consisting of detention facilities for men and women. Its operating budget is approximately three-hundred million dollars. It provides significant and diverse services to its residents, including those in the senior, disabled, veterans, and other communities.

NATURE OF SERVICES -The County of Mercer is requesting proposals from qualified individuals and firms to provide a Risk Management Consultant for the Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission. Respondents shall educate themselves with regard to additional statistical information in which to prepare a proposal.

STANDARD REQUIREMENTS OF TECHNICAL PROPOSAL- Respondents should submit a technical proposal which contains the following:

- A. The name of the respondent, the principal place of business and, if different, the place where the services will be provided;
- B. The age of the respondent's firm and the average number of employees over the past three years;
- C. The education, qualifications, experience, and training of all persons who would be assigned to provide services along with their names and titles;
- D. A listing of all other engagements where similar services are performed in the past ten years. This should include other County governments and other levels of government. Contact information for the recipients of the similar services must be provided. The County may obtain references from any of the parties listed;
- E. A detailed plan for providing the proposed services;
- F. Proof of professional liability insurance;
- G. Proof of any necessary professional license or certification from the State of New Jersey for all professionals assigned to the engagement;
- H. Statement that the firm has Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance in accordance with New Jersey Jaw;
- 1. Statement that neither the firm nor any individuals assigned to this engagement are disbarred, suspended, or otherwise prohibited from professional practice by any federal, state, or local agency;
- J. A description of the respondent's office location and an explanation of the respondent's RFP2013-04 RISK MANAGER

availability for meetings, conferences, training and emergency response at the County's facilities;

K. A representation that all services will be performed within the United States of America.

#### SPECIALIZED REQUIREMENTS OF TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

The successful candidate will provide the Commission with administrative services related to, but not necessarily limited to:

- a) Assist the Commission's participating entities in identifying its insurable property and casualty exposures and to recommend professional methods to reduce, assume or transfer the risk or loss.
- b) Assist the Commission's participating entities in understanding and selecting the various coverages available from the Commission.
- c) Review with the Commission's participating entities any additional coverage that the RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT feels should be carried, but are not available from the Commission, and, subject to the entities' authorization, place such coverage outside the Commission.
- d) Assist the participating entities and departments in the preparation of applications, statements of values, and similar documents requested by the Commission, it being understood that this agreement does not include any appraisal work by the RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT.
- e) Review participating entity assessments as prepared by the Commission and assist the participating municipalities in the preparation of their annual insurance budget.
- f) Review the loss and engineering reports and generally assist the participating entities in their loss containment objectives.
- g) Assist where needed in the settlement of claims, with the understanding that the scope of the RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT's involvement does not include the work normally done by the Commission's claims service company.
- h) Attendance at meetings of the Commission.
- Perform any other services required by the Commission's Bylaws.

#### **RESPONDENTS SHALL PROVIDE:**

Resume and letter application for Risk Management Consultant including all documentation that provides the following for evaluation by the Commission:

- Experience, qualifications and reputation in the field for the position sought.
- Knowledge of the area of expertise for the position of Risk Management Consultant.
- Experience and knowledge of the Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission.
- Availability to accommodate any required meeting of the Commission.
- Designated professional and support staff and location of firm's offices.

References in particular from governmental entities where the respondent has provided similar services as sought by the Commission.

Selection of professionals shall be solely on the Commission's evaluation of the submitted material in the criteria set forth in this document. The Commission reserves the right to negotiate the terms and conditions of a contract with the successful firm or firms to obtain the most advantageous situation for the Commission.

#### PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The services provided under this agreement shall be paid for monthly by the County, payable after the services are completed and the invoice is submitted and approved by the County. Purchasing will then match the invoice with the voucher, receiving report and purchase order. After all paperwork is reviewed the voucher will be prepared for payment.

#### LICENSING

If the successful respondent or any of its subcontractors is required to maintain a license in order to perform the services which are the subject of this contract, then prior to the effective date of this contract, and as a condition precedent to its taking effect, the successful respondent shall provide to the County a copy of all current licenses to operate in the State of New Jersey. All licenses shall be current and in good standing and shall not be subject to any current action to revoke or suspend.

Successful respondent shall notify the County immediately in the event of suspension, revocation or any change in status (or in the event of initiation of any action in status) of license or certification held by the successful respondent or its agents and/or subcontractors. The successful respondent shall during the term of the contract, provide County with proof of renewal of any license for any of respondent's employees, which renewals occur during the term of the contract.

#### INDEMNIFICATION

The successful respondent shall be responsible for, shall keep, save and hold the County of Mercer harmless from and shall indemnify the County of Mercer against any claim, Joss liability, expense (specifically including but not limited to costs, counsel fees, and/or experts' fees), or damage resulting from all mental or physical injuries or disabilities, including death, to employees or recipients of the successful respondent's services or to any other persons, or from any damage to any property sustained in connection with this contract which results from any acts or omissions, including negligence or malpractice, of any of its officers, directors, employees, agents, servants or independent contractors, or from the successful respondent's failure to provide for the safety and protection of its employees, or from the successful respondent's performance or failure to perform pursuant to the terms and provisions of this contract.

The successful respondent's liability under this agreement shall continue after the termination of this agreement with respect to any liability, Joss, expense or damage resulting from acts occurring prior to termination.

#### INSURANCE

The successful respondent shall maintain general liability, automobile liability, and Worker's Compensation Insurance in amounts and with companies deemed satisfactory by the County. The insurance company must be licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey and be in compliance with any and all applicable requirements of the State of New Jersey. The successful respondent shall, simultaneously with the execution of a contract, deliver certifications of said insurance to the County, naming the County as an additional insured (see page 21 for specific requirements).

#### APPLICABLE LAW

The terms and provisions of this contract shall be construed pursuant to the laws of the RFP2013-04 RISK MANAGER

State of New Jersey.

#### **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS"**

The parties acknowledge that the successful respondent is an independent contractor and is not an agent of the County.

#### **TERMINATION**

Any contract entered into by and between the County and the successful respondent may be terminated as follows:

- A. If successful respondent and/or any of its employees and/or agents are required to be licensed and/or registered in order to perform the services which are the subject of this or any agreement thereof, then the agreement shall be terminated in the event that the appropriate governmental entity with jurisdiction has instituted an action to have the contractor's license and/or registration suspended or revoked, or in the event that such entity has revoked or suspended said license or denied such registration. Notice of termination pursuant to this subparagraph shall be effective immediately upon the giving of said notice.
- B. The County shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to declare this agreement terminated in the event of any material breach of this agreement by the successful respondent. Such termination shall be effective upon the expiration often

calendar (10) days' notice to the successful respondent. However, the County shall not have the right to declare the contract terminated in the event the vendor cures said breach within the notice period.

Note: Supplemental information may be requested and an interview may be required.

#### COST PROPOSAL

Respondents shall submit a cost proposal on the enclosed proposal form and respondents shall include a schedule of fees for additional work which is not defined in this RFP. The County does not provide payment for or reimbursement for travel expenses.

#### DISCUSSIONS WITH RESPONDENTS

An oral presentation by a respondent to clarify a proposal may be required at the sole discretion of the County. However, the County may award a contract based on the initial proposals received without discussion with the respondent. If oral presentations are required, they will be scheduled after the submission of proposals. Respondent will not be compensated for making the presentation.

#### PROPOSAL EVALUATION

The County will select the most advantageous proposal based on all of the evaluation factors set forth at the end of this RFP. However, cost is important to the County. The County may, if deemed useful, attempt to negotiate an acceptable fee with the most qualified respondent. The County will make the award that is in the best interest of the County based on cost and other considerations.

Each proposal must satisfy the objectives and requirements detailed in this RFP. The features of the proposal, considered together with its economic and other benefits, will form the basis for the evaluation process.

The successful respondent shall be determined by an evaluation of the total content of the proposal submitted. The County reserves the right to:

a. Not select any of the proposals.

b. Select only portions of a particular respondent's proposal for further consideration (however,

respondents may specify portions of the proposal that they consider "bundled".)

c. Award a contract for the requested services at any time within 60 days of the selection of the most advantageous proposal. Every proposal should be valid through this time period.

The County shall not be obligated to explain the results of the evaluation process to any respondent. The County may require respondents to demonstrate any services described in their proposal prior to award.

#### PROPOSAL LIMITATIONS

This RFP is not intended to be an offer, order or contract and should not be regarded as such, nor shall any obligation or liability be imposed on the County by issuance of this RFP. The County reserves the right at the County's sole discretion to refuse any proposal submitted.

#### **USE OF INFORMATION**

Any specifications, drawings, sketches, models, samples, data, computer programs, documentation, technical or business information and the like ("Information") furnished or disclosed by the County to the respondent in connection with this RFP shall remain the property of the County. When in tangible form, all copies of such information shall be returned to the County upon request. Unless such information was previously known to the respondent, free of any obligation to keep it confidential, or has been or is subsequently made public by the County or a third party, it shall be held in confidence by the respondent, shall be used only for the purposes of this RFP, and may not be used for other purposes except upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon in writing.

#### PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

Any proposal submitted may become public information. Proprietary information such as client lists and non-public financial statements may be protected under limited circumstances. Pricing and service elements are not considered proprietary. An entire proposal may not be marked as proprietary. Respondents must clearly identify in the proposal any specific proprietary information they request be protected. Proposals may be reviewed and assessed by any person at the discretion of the County. All materials submitted become the property of the County of Mercer and may be returned only at the County's option.

#### GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, if necessary, or to waive any informality in the proposals, and unless otherwise specified by the respondent, to accept any item, items or services in the proposals should it be deemed in the best interest of the County to do so. In case of failure by the successful respondent, the County of Mercer may procure the articles or services from other sources, deduct the cost of the replacement from money due to the respondent under the contract, and hold the respondent responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby.

The Respondent or subcontractor, where applicable, shall be responsible for, shall keep, save and hold the County of Mercer harmless from, shall indemnify and shall defend the County of Mercer against any claim, Joss, liability, expense (specifically including but not limited to costs, counsel fees and/or experts' fees), or damage resulting from all mental or physical injuries or disabilities, including death, to employees or recipients of the respondent's services or to any other persons, or from any damage to any property sustained in connection with this contract which results from any acts or omissions, including negligence or malpractice, of any of its officers, directors, employees, agents, servants or independent contractors, or from the respondent's failure to provide for the safety and protection of its employees, or from respondent's performance or failure to perform pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Contract. The respondent's liability under this agreement shall continue after the termination of this agreement with respect to any liability, loss, expense or damage resulting from acts occurring prior to termination.

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The respondent shall maintain sufficient insurance to protect against all claims under Workmen's Compensation. General, Professional and Automobile Liability and shall be subject to approval for adequacy of protection.

Each proposal must be signed by the person authorized to do so.

The County of Mercer is exempt from any State sales tax or Federal excise tax. In submitting its proposal, the respondent certifies that its total base proposal does not include any NJ State Sales Tax.

The contract shall be in effect for one (1) year from date of award with the option to extend two, one-year periods.

Proposals may be hand delivered or mailed consistent with the provisions of the legal notice to respondents. In the case of mailed proposals, the County assumes no responsibility for proposals received after the designated date and time and will return late proposals unopened.

All services shall be performed within the United State of America.

Any submission of the proposal, the respondent certifies that the service to be furnished will not infringe upon any valid patent, trademark or copyright and the successful respondent shall, at its expense, defend any and all actions or suits charging such infringement, and will save the County harmless in any case of any such infringement.

No respondent shall influence, or attempt to influence or cause to be influenced, any county officer or employee to use his/her official capacity in any manner which might tend to impair the objectivity or independence of judgment of said officer or employee.

No respondent shall cause or influence, or attempt to cause or influence, any county officer or employee to use his/her official capacity to secure unwarranted privileges or advantages for the respondent or any other person.

The County of Mercer shall not be responsible for any expenditure of monies or other expenses incurred by the respondent in making its proposal.

Any prospective respondent who wishes to challenge a proposal specification shall file such challenges in writing with the County Purchasing Department no fewer than Three (3) business days prior to the opening of the proposals. Challenges filed after that time shall be considered void and have no impact on the contracting unit or the award of the contract.

The checklist, affidavits, notices and the like presented at the end of this Request for Proposal are a part of this Request for Proposal and shall be completed and submitted as part of this proposal.

#### **CRITERIA BASIS OF AWARD**

- 1. Respondent has provided all documentation as required
- 2. Qualifications, Training and Experience
- 3. Relevance of similar engagements
- 4. Performance Plan, demonstrated knowledge and ability to effect cost savings
- 5. Cost of Proposal